



## One-Plus Ton of Drugs Surrendered!

### *Slater-Price Motion For Secure Drop-Off Boxes Passes, Will Be Installed At Locations Countywide*

**A**n effort to control the epidemic of prescription drug abuse among teens and young adults advanced in late April when the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a proposal by Chairwoman Pam Slater-Price and Sheriff Bill Gore to install 22 secure drop-off boxes at key locations countywide. That vote followed the second Prescription Take-Back Day, during which more than one ton of prescription drugs were turned over to authorities at six locations countywide.

“An overwhelming success” is how Chairwoman Slater-Price described the second Prescription Take-Back Day, during which more than 2,500 pounds of medications were voluntarily surrendered. That total far exceeded the 321 pounds yielded at the initial event last October.

Chairwoman Slater-Price and Sheriff Gore manned a drop-off site hosted by Scripps Memorial Hospital-Encinitas. Eighty-seven participants dropped off more than 210 pounds of medications.

The surrendered prescriptions countywide filled 131 boxes that were immediately sealed by sheriff’s personnel and slated for destruction. Medications included Oxycodone, Vicodin and other addictive opiates that are commonly prescribed to cancer patients for pain management. Besides Oxycodone, other drugs in demand include Fentanyl, Ad-derall, Soma, Xanax, codeine and methadone.

Teen-agers are turning to these drugs, which are found in the family’s medicine cabinet, for recreational use.

“Those drugs could have easily fallen into the wrong hands and led to abuse,



Chairwoman Pam Slater-Price and Sheriff Bill Gore (above) assist volunteers and members of the Sheriff’s Department in collecting prescription drugs dropped off at the Encinitas location during the second Take-Back Day. Fifteen boxes were filled at the Encinitas collection. Chairwoman Slater-Price looks at some of the items that were surrendered (below right). Her ordinance, approved by the Board of Supervisors in late April, calls for the establishment of 22 secured collection boxes (below left) at sheriff facilities.



addiction or worse – death,” Chairwoman Slater-Price said. “One thing has become incredibly clear: A permanent, safe solution to dispose of prescription drugs must be found for San Diego County.”

To that aim, Chairwoman Slater-Price worked with the Board of Supervisors to approve an ordinance that created the perma-

nent drop-off boxes at sheriff’s stations and hospitals across the county. About 22 locations have been identified by the county’s Oxy Task Force, a multi-agency chaired by Slater-Price. Sheriff’s personnel estimate the boxes will collect between 5,000 and 6,000 pounds of prescription drugs annually.

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## News of Note

### Technology Summit Set

**Y**ou don't have to be a teen-ager to have a Twitter account, a Facebook page, make medical appointments or pay bills online. Staying connected through technology and keeping current with the latest gadgets and programs can be fun and productive for people of any age. Aging Summit 2010 will be held from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, June 3, at the Town & Country Resort and Convention Center, 500 Hotel Circle N., Mission Valley.



"New technology can be a bit overwhelming for many people, regardless of age," said Chairwoman Pam Slater-Price, who, with Supervisor Dianne Jacob is host. Speakers include Dr. Gary Small, director of the UCLA Center on Aging and a researcher on memory-training programs and technology, and "Muscleman of Technology" Bruce Pechman who will demonstrate a variety of fun and practical gadgets. Call the AARP at (877) 926-8300 to register. For additional information, see [www.AgingSummit2010.org](http://www.AgingSummit2010.org).

### Planning Focus Moves Forward

San Diego County's first complete upgrade of its growth and development plans in 30 years took its biggest step yet forward when it was endorsed by the county Planning Commission. The General Plan Update will take its final step this fall when it is brought to the Board of Supervisors for consideration.



"This is a milestone that is crucial to the future of San Diego County," said Chairwoman Pam Slater-Price. "Rational, planned growth is important to this county's economic prosperity as well as its quality-of-life."

General Plans guide development. Generally, they set the philosophy and policies that determine what gets built where while protecting community values.

## Handicap Accessibility, Living History Tour, Community Celebrations Are Grant Winners

**N**eighborhood Reinvestment Grants bring communities closer together while promoting their unique character. They also improve on the quality-of-life enjoyed in the Third District by, for example, making a popular community center in Solana Beach more handicap-accessible.

"Enhancing the quality-of-life in our neighborhoods also assists our local economy, keeping people employed, encouraging innovation and the delivery of first-class services," said Chairwoman Slater-Price. "These are win-win situations."

Neighborhood Reinvestment Program Grants approved by the Board of Supervisors in April include:

- **\$5,000** – **Encinitas Chamber of Commerce** to stage "A Sporting Life," a wellness and sports-education day taking place May 23 at 675 Balour Drive. **Re-build RB**, which is hosting 10 wildfire education courses at the neighborhood library, community and senior centers. **Escondido Chamber of Commerce** to offset costs of its golf tournament fund-raiser.

- **\$5,000** – **San Dieguito Heritage Museum** that will purchase supplies, food and entertainment for its annual Deep Pit Bar-B-Que fund-raiser. **Solana Beach Civic and Historical Society** to cover transportation costs so that children from three elementary schools can attend its Living History Program. **Operation Homefront San Diego** to purchase backpack supplies in time for its annual August Backpack Brigade. **Kiwanis Club of Escondido Foundation** to offset costs of its May 22 fund-raiser.

- **\$5,000** – **Del Mar Village Association** will celebrate the Summer Solstice community event on June 17. **Burn Institute** is hosting its 19th annual FIRE EXPO on June 19. **Helen Woodward Animal Center** has its June 5 "Spring Fling" fund-raiser.

- **\$5,000** – **Kiwanis Club of Tierrasanta Foundation** is hosting its annual fireworks celebration in conjunction with its Oktoberfest. **Solana Center for Environmental Innovation** has activities planned that are part of the June 6 Earth Day celebration at Cottonwood Creek Park in Encinitas. Taste of Tierrasanta takes place on Aug. 21 under the auspice of the **Tierrasanta**

**Foundation**. June is the month for the California International Violin Competition taking place at the Sherwood Auditorium in La Jolla and the California Center for the Arts in Escondido, organized by the **California International Young Artists Competition**. The **Angel's Depot** has a series of fund-raisers at the Del Mar Hilton this June and July.

- **\$6,000** – **Mira Mesa 4th of July Committee** has plans under way for its annual community celebration and fireworks.

- **\$6,500** – **Lake Murray Kiwanis Foundation** has a variety of activities planned for the 14th annual Lake Murray July 4th Music Festival.

- **\$7,000** – **Center for World Music** is purchasing instruments for its education programs.

- **\$7,500** – **Cardiff-by-the-Sea Chamber of Commerce** will go to the dogs again this year when it hosts its fifth annual Cardiff Dog Days of Summer celebration. **Tierrasanta Community Council Foundation** will have a new storefront banner and web-based marketing program; it will also rent the necessary equipment to host its summertime concert series.

- **\$10,000** – **Alzheimer's Association of San Diego/Imperial Chapter** to cover costs of art supplies for its "Memories in the Making" program and to cover costs of its May 14 fund-raiser, "Our Bright Future II." **Wingtip Productions** will stage eight outdoor lecture-performances throughout North County. An exhibition spotlighting Toulouse-Lautrec takes place at the **San Diego Museum of Art** in July. **Kids Korps USA** is again organizing its Green Korps Summer Volunteer Camps. The Barb is alive as the **San Diego Shakespeare Society** is organizing the annual San Diego Student Shakespeare Education Initiative and Festival.

- **\$11,000** – **Spirit of the Fourth** that will be used to stage the annual Independence Day firework show in Rancho Bernardo.

- **\$25,000** – **City of Solana Beach** will improve the Fletcher Cove Community Center so that it is more accessible to the disabled.

- **\$50,000** – **Boys & Girls Clubs of San Dieguito** is replacing its clubhouse and dance floor at the Encinitas branch.





## OUT AND ABOUT IN THE THIRD DISTRICT



Chairwoman Pam Slater-Price (left) congratulates the robotic teams at Canyon Crest High School in Carmel Valley for earning an invitation to the FIRST championship in Atlanta, Ga. Team members Logan Mercer and Nick Van Campen (above) explain to Chairwoman Slater-Price how the program developed.

### School's Robotic Effort Honored

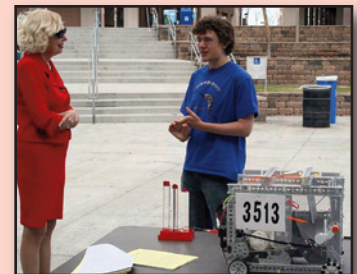
**H**onoring academic achievement in science and technology, Chairwoman Pam Slater-Price declared March 31 as Canyon Crest Academy's First Robotics Day in San Diego County. The Carmel Valley campus had its rookie robotics team earn an invitation to the prestigious FIRST Championship taking place in Atlanta, Ga. This is the first time in the 19-year history of the FIRST program that two rookie teams from the same school qualified for the championship.

Two parents started two FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) robotics teams in the summer of 2009 with assistance from an international organi-

zation that sponsors four levels of student robotics competitions.

Inventor Dean Kamen created FIRST with the mission to get robotics into every school in the country as a way to get students more involved in science, technology, engineering and math.

Canyon Crest Academy teams were victorious in the Los Angeles and San Diego regional competitions.



Chairwoman Pam Slater-Price listens as Nick Van Campen details how he created his entry



Chairwoman Slater-Price (above) introduces the recipients of this year's "Citizen of Courage" awards during the April 16 ceremony at the Westin Plaza Hotel in downtown San Diego. She later congratulated San Diego Police Officer Lynn Chavez (right) for creating the Paws'itive Teams program.

### 'Courage' Honored

**O**ne "Citizen of Courage" this year had four legs - make that paws. Among this year's honorees saluted by Chairwoman Pam Slater-Price were San Diego Police Officer Lynn Chavez and Dory, a 3-year-old yellow lab-golden retriever mix who helps young victims make it through the courtroom trauma of facing their attackers. Most of the children are victims of molestation or assault. The program honored is called Paws'itive Teams.

Chairwoman Slater-Price and the Board of Supervisors declared April 16 to be Deborah Carr Day, recognizing her courage and bravery for testifying against her ex-boyfriend who severely beat her and set her on fire during a domestic violence attack.

Other honorees included Sandy Vinge, who survived being kidnapped, bound, gagged and left in the truck of her vehicle to later testify against her assailants; Melanie Cruz, who was awakened by an intruder straddling her bed and suffered knife cuts to her neck and body; Jennifer and Matthew Loveless, who was shot five times by a ex-boyfriend during a domestic violence altercation; and Rodil and Caridad Razon, who survived a 90-minute home invasion that ended with several injuries to both.



### Annual Clean-up Breaks Trash Mark

**M**ore than 4,500 volunteers in late April collected the one millionth pound of trash during the 8th annual Creek to Bay Clean-up. Removed this year were such unusual items as a cash register, two fire hoses and a ThighMaster. Debris was removed from various San Diego beaches, bays and waterways.

Chairwoman Pam Slater-Price helped sponsor the event when the Board of Supervisors approved on her recommendation a \$15,000 Neighborhood Reinvestment Program Grant.

# Slater-Price-Planned Tribal Summit A Success

Chairwoman Pam Slater-Price played an integral role as a member of the San Diego Association of Government's San Diego Regional Tribal Summit Committee, in pulling together a local government meeting with 17 tribes to discuss ways to improve the region's quality of life.

A key component of the meeting was roads and water. Improving infrastructure should be a collaborative effort, explained

Chairwoman Slater-Price, involving every interested entity. To meet this goal, Chairwoman Slater-Price is recommending that a tribal liaison be invited to the county-level meetings that coordinate emergency services.

"So much more can be accomplished here in San Diego County simply by sitting down and sharing with each other the challenges and proposed solutions to our mutual problems," she said.

"Our partners representing the Tribes want to be part of the solution. Their ideas must be considered in any regional dialogue."

Chris Devers, chair of the Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians, added, "I know there is so much we can do together. I think the toughest part is that we are going to have to stay focused. The picture we are looking at is huge."

## PILLS

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"These numbers validate that San Diego County needs a reliable, convenient, secured system by which parents can safely dispose unused drugs from their homes," said Chairwoman Slater-Price.

"A constituent wrote this e-mail to my office: 'I was so happy to hear of your solution to left-over drugs. I have had many occasions in which I had tried to help an individual dispose of left-over drugs.

'Hospitals won't take them, you aren't supposed to flush them down the drain, and the drug stores tell you to dump them in the trash! This measure will go a long way to keep drugs out of the wrong hands. Thank you.'"

The demand for prescription drugs and the extremes those who abuse them go through escalated last month.

Sheriff's deputies are searching for a suspect – believed to be between 18 and 20 years old – who robbed a pharmacy at the Stater Bros. Market in Poway, escaping with OxyContin and other prescription drugs after pointing a weapon at the pharmacist.

Crime Stoppers is offering a \$1,000 reward for anybody who has information that leads to an arrest in this case.

An anonymous call can be made to (888) 580-8477 or a text or e-mail can be sent to [www.sdcrimestoppers.com](http://www.sdcrimestoppers.com).

Information: (877) 662-6384.  
Facebook: Oxy Task Force



Chairwoman Pam Slater-Price and Sheriff Bill Gore show some of the prescription drugs collected at the Encinitas Take-Back site.

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